(c) whether Government are going to remore the impediments like labour to tap the opportunity emerging out of the quota free regime;

(d) whether Government are going to consider the proposal of the Gujarat Government for application of labour reforms to labour intensive industrial park; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

Mineral deposits in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh

2798. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the States like Orissa and Madhya Pradesh are having rich mineral deposits;

(b) if so, whether Government have carried out any survey regarding such deposits;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the stand of Government on excavation of mineral deposits of these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), under the administrative control of this Ministry have been carrying out mineral exploration in these States. GSI and MECL have carried out exploration for coal, copper, diamond, limestone and manganese in both the States. In addition, bauxite, chromite, iron, nickel, platinum group of elements (PGE) were explored in Orissa and gold, lead, zinc, phosphorite in Madhya Pradesh.

(d) As per the National Mineral Policy, 1993 (NMP) the exploitation of these minerals has been thrown open to private entrepreneures.